

Strickland	Tierney	Watts (OK)
Stump	Toomey	Waxman
Sweeney	Towns	Weiner
Talent	Trafficant	Weldon (FL)
Tancredo	Turner	Weldon (PA)
Tanner	Udall (CO)	Weller
Tauscher	Udall (NM)	Wexler
Taylor (MS)	Upton	Weygand
Taylor (NC)	Velázquez	Whitfield
Terry	Visclosky	Wicker
Thomas	Vitter	Wilson
Thompson (CA)	Walden	Wolf
Thompson (MS)	Walsh	Woolsey
Thornberry	Wamp	Wu
Thune	Waters	Wynn
Thurman	Watkins	Young (AK)
Tiahrt	Watt (NC)	

## NOT VOTING—56

Baird	Frost	Neal
Blagojevich	Galleghy	Norwood
Bonilla	Gibbons	Owens
Bonior	Graham	Oxley
Brady (PA)	Granger	Payne
Brown (FL)	Hinojosa	Pelosi
Brown (OH)	Jefferson	Porter
Callahan	Jones (OH)	Pryce (OH)
Campbell	Kasich	Ros-Lehtinen
Capps	Kennedy	Rush
Carson	Kilpatrick	Saxton
Clay	Klink	Schaffer
Coburn	Lampson	Stupak
DeFazio	Linder	Sununu
Diaz-Balart	Lowe	Tauzin
Edwards	Manzullo	Vento
Ehrlich	McCollum	Wise
Emerson	Miller, George	Young (FL)
Evans	Moakley	

## □ 1853

So (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the concurrent resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. TAUZIN. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 17 I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. CAMPBELL. Madam Speaker, I regret that I was not present for rollcall votes Nos. 16 and 16 because I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on both counts.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, due to air transport delays, I was absent for the votes on H. Con. Res. 247, expressing the Sense of Congress regarding the importance of organ, tissue, bone marrow, and blood donation and supporting National Donor Day and H. Con. Res. 76, recognizing the social problem of child abuse and neglect and supporting efforts to enhance public awareness of it. Had I been present, I would have supported the passage of both of these concurrent resolutions.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. KILPATRICK. Madam Speaker, due to official business in the 15th Congressional District of Michigan, I was unable to record my votes for rollcall Nos. 16 and 17 considered today. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall 16, H. Con. Res. 247, Ex-

pressing the Sense of Congress Regarding the Importance of Organ, Tissue, Bone Marrow, and Blood Donation and Supporting National Donor Day and "aye" on rollcall No. 17, H. Con. Res. 76, Recognizing The Social Problem of Child Abuse and Neglect and Supporting Efforts to Enhance Public Awareness of it.

## SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 1999, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

## DEVASTATING TORNADOES HIT SOUTHWEST GEORGIA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. BISHOP) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BISHOP. Madam Speaker, tonight I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives and the people of our Nation to join me in prayer for the families of those who suffered grievous losses as a result of tornadoes last night that brought widespread devastation and extensive loss of life to rural areas of Mitchell, Grady, Colquitt and Taft counties in a part of southwest Georgia that I have the privilege of representing.

This is one of the worst natural disasters in our State's history. The number of people whose lives were lost continue to mount throughout the day; and, as yet, the total has still not been definitely determined. By now, my colleagues have probably seen images of this terrible disaster in the national news. These are rural residential neighborhoods that now look like battle zones, with home after home turned into rubble. To say the least, it is a heartbreaking sight.

I know the people of my area of Georgia can count on the support of my colleagues as we mobilize all of the available resources, public and private, to provide the emergency assistance that is going to be needed. Our Congressional office stands ready to provide any help and guidance that individuals, businesses, and governmental entities need to gain access to much needed disaster relief assistance.

I want to take this opportunity to commend all of the government leaders in the impacted counties who are responding so effectively and valiantly and the municipal leaders in those areas who are lending their assistance. I also want to commend the many private citizens who are helping to provide relief for their neighbors, as well as the private organizations that are involved in this relief effort.

I certainly commend Governor Roy Barnes and everyone at our State level, including Georgia Emergency Manage-

ment Agency Director Gary McConnell and all of his people over at GEMA, who have sprung into action on so many fronts and, along with Governor Barnes, have started the process leading to a major disaster declaration.

And those of us from Georgia, Madam Speaker, are also thankful for the efforts of the Federal Emergency Management Agency and its fine Director James Lee Witt, who is working hand-in-glove with state and community leaders in responding decisively to this disaster.

Madam Speaker, this is a time for all of our communities to pull together. After severe flooding struck our area of Georgia just a few years ago, including the areas that have been struck by these terrible tornadoes, I quoted the Apostle Paul, who said, "God's strength is made perfect in weakness."

It is with this strength that we in southwest Georgia will confront this tragedy and come together in our collective faith, our hope, and our charitable spirit to bring comfort to those who have suffered and to begin the work of rebuilding our communities.

## □ 1900

## PRESCRIPTION DRUG PRICES

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. GUTKNECHT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Madam Speaker, I rise tonight to talk about a very serious issue confronting our Nation. In the last 4 years, the price of prescription drugs in the United States has increased by 56 percent. In the last year alone, prescription drug prices in the United States have increased by 15.6 percent. That is at a time when our inflation rate is running somewhere around 2 or 2½ percent. Madam Speaker, it is time for Congress to take some action to try and stem this ever increasing price for prescription drugs. All of us here in the House and all of us in Washington know who bears the burden of those tremendous increases in prices. It is principally the senior citizens here in the United States.

Madam Speaker, I want to talk tonight about the differentials between the United States, what is happening here and what is happening in other countries. Many of us have recently read about seniors who are boarding buses in our States and going to Canada to buy their prescription drugs. It is happening in Minnesota, it is happening in Idaho, Wyoming, Montana, and all across and throughout the northeastern United States as well.

Let me try to explain how much of a differential there is in the price of prescription drugs. Let us take a relatively common, one of the more commonly prescribed drugs in the United